

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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P R 221530Z OCT 75

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2843

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO 250

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0421

EXDIS/SALT

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (III OF STATEMENT)

DDEPT ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR JOHNSON'S STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 22, 1975

(SALT TWO - 825)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 1975.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
OCTOBER 22, 1975

MR. MINISTER:

I

TODAY I WANT TO DISCUSS ARTICLE X OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WHICH
WILL PROHIBIT THE DEVELOPMENT, TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN
TYPES OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

II

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ON SEPTEMBER 19, THE U.S. DELEGATION ADDRESSED CERTAIN QUESTIONS REGARDING ARTICLE X OF THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT. AT THAT TIME, A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN ACHIEVED WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PROVISIONS TO BE INCLUDED. SINCE THAT TIME, THERE HAS BEEN FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON ARTICLE X.

FOR EXAMPLE, BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE IN SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT THAT WHAT THE UNITED STATES CALL "FRACTIONAL ORBITAL BOMBARDMENT (FOBS)" AND THE SOVIET UNION CALLS "FRACTIONAL ORBITAL MISSILES" SHOULD BE BANNED, ALONG WITH OTHER SYSTEMS FOR PLACING NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ANY OTHER KIND OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION INTO ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED BY INCORPORATING IN THIS PROVISION THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE:

EACH PARTY UNDERTAKES NOT TO DEVELOP, TEST OR DEPLOY... SYSTEMS, INCLUDING FRACTIONAL ORBITAL MISSILES, FOR PLACING NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR ANY OTHER KIND OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION INTO EARTH ORBIT;

I WISH TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE U.S. PROPOSAL WOULD NOT REQUIRE DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF EXISTING LAUNCHERS. I HOPE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL PERMIT EARLY AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBPARAGRAPH.

III

SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS ALSO BEEN ACHIEVED REGARDING SUB-PARAGRAPH (C) WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT THE DEVELOPMENT, TESTING, AND DEPLOYMENT OF SEABED WEAPON SYSTEMS. THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO AGREE THAT THE SUBMERGED AREAS COVERED IN THAT SUBPARAGRAPH INCLUDE THE SEABED ZONE REFERRED TO IN ARTICLES I AND II OF THE SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY SIGNED IN 1971.

AS WE NOTED ON SEPTEMBER 19, MISSILES FOR SUCH DEPLOYMENT MIGHT HAVE TO BE SPECIALLY DESIGNED. TAKING THIS INTO CONSIDERATION, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE PHRASE "SPECIALLY DESIGNED" BE INSERTED AFTER "MISSILES" TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ONLY THIS TYPE OF MISSILE WOULD BE PROHIBITED BY THIS CLAUSE.

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IV

SOME ISSUES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROVISIONS I HAVE DISCUSSED, AS WELL AS OTHER PARTS OF ARTICLE X, ARE NOT YET RESOLVED. THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN PROPOSING THAT BOTH MISSILES AND LAUNCHERS BE PROHIBITED IN SUBPARAGRAPHS (A), (B), AND (C). IN PROPOSING A COMMITMENT NOT TO DEVELOP, TEST OR DEPLOY BOTH MISSILES AND LAUNCHERS IN ARTICLE X, THE UNITED

STATES IS PROCEEDING IN A MANNER THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH PRECEDENTS ESTABLISHED BOTH IN THE SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY SIGNED IN 1971, UNDER WHICH THE EMPLACEMENT OF LAUNCHING INSTALLATIONS AND THE WEAPONS THEMSELVES IS PROHIBITED, AND IN THE ABM TREATY OF 1972, WHICH CONTAINS LIMITATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS ON ABM SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS. IT IS MY HOPE THAT PROGRESS CAN ALSO BE ACHIEVED BETWEEN OUR TWO SIDES ON THE QUESTION OF INCLUDING PROHIBITIONS ON BOTH MISSILES AND LAUNCHERS IN ARTICLE X.

V

IN SUM, MR. MINISTER, I BELIEVE THAT THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTIONS OF THE QUESTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN ARTICLE X OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. IT IS MY HOPE THAT TIMELY RESOLUTION OF THE REMAINING ISSUES WILL ALLOW THIS PROGRESS TO CONTINUE.JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALT (ARMS CONTROL), ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SALTT00421
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750368-0450
From: SALT TALKS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751028/aaaaazbh.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR JOHNSON'S STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 22, 1975 (SALT TWO - 825)
TAGS: PARM, (JOHNSON, U ALEXIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006